

Amendments to the Claims:

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the above-captioned application.

1. (Currently amended) A vibration generator (1) comprising a housing (1), a weight (3) ~~that is~~ movable relative to the housing ~~in a manner for~~ operatively imparting a vibratory movement to the housing, and means for imparting movement to the weight ~~in a manner for~~ causing said vibratory movement of the housing, ~~the vibration generator being characterised in that~~
~~wherein the weight is in the form of a magnetic element that is~~ freely movable along a track (2) within the housing and ~~in that~~
~~wherein a plurality of electric coils (6) are associated with the track in a manner enabling for operative sequential energisation of the coils to create movement of the magnetic element within the track in a manner imparting to impart~~ a vibratory movement to the vibration generator.
2. (Original): A vibration generator as claimed in claim 1 in which the track is an endless track that follows a path selected from a circular and an elliptical path.
3. (Currently amended): A vibration generator as claimed in ~~either one of claims 1 or claim~~ 2 in which the coils are generally equally spaced along the track.
4. (Currently amended): A vibration generator as claimed in ~~any one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1 in which the coils are wound around the housing concentrically with the track therein at spaced positions along the track.

5. (Currently amended): A vibration generator as claimed in ~~any one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1 in which the track has a surface layer (4) operatively engaged by the magnetic element,
~~wherein~~ said surface layer ~~having desirable~~ has qualities that include ~~including~~ that of sound absorption.
6. (Currently amended): A vibration generator as claimed in ~~any one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1 in which the magnetic element is spherical in shape ~~in which case~~ and the track is of generally circular shape in cross-section.
7. (Currently amended): A vibration generator as claimed in ~~any one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1 in which the housing and coils are encased within an outer shell (8) ~~optionally cast or moulded in situ~~ formed to permanently enclose the housing and coils.
8. (Currently amended): A vibration generator as claimed in ~~any one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1 in which the housing is sealed in a closed condition following evacuation of air and optional purging with a suitable gas.
9. (Currently amended): A vibration generator as claimed in claim 2 in which an auxiliary vibration generator (14) having a reciprocally movable weight (15) therein is ~~configured to locate~~ located in the centre of the vibration generator with the axis of movement of the reciprocally movable weight being at generally right angles to the plane of the track ~~in~~ in order to thereby generate vibrations in two transverse directions.
10. (Currently amended): A vibration generator composite unit comprising a vibration generator as claimed in ~~any one of claims 1 to 9~~ claim 1 in which a second vibration generator (13)

is located coaxially therewith and wherein the two vibration generators are either independently controlled, or interdependently controlled.

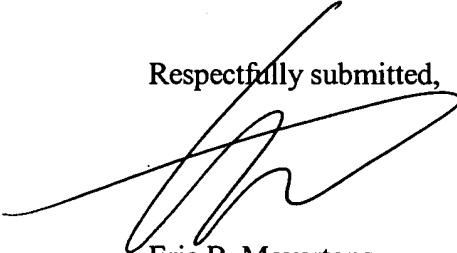
11. (Original): A vibration generator composite unit as claimed in claim 10 in which the vibration generators are of different diameters with a smaller one being received within a larger one in substantially coplanar relationship.
12. (Currently amended): A vibration generator assembly comprising at least two vibration generators or vibration generator composite units as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 11 claim 1 wherein the vibration generators or composite units are connected to a common control unit (9) that operatively controls the operation of the various electric coils associated with the tracks of the various vibration generators and wherein the control unit can optionally be is configured to cause the vibration generators to create interference waves consequent on the interaction of the individual vibrations created by each vibration generator.
13. (Currently added): A vibration generator assembly comprising at least two vibration generators or vibration generator composite units as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 11 claim 11 wherein the vibration generators or composite units are connected to a common control unit (9) that controls the operation of the various electric coils associated with the tracks of the various vibration generators and wherein the control unit can optionally be is configured to cause the vibration generators to create interference waves consequent on the interaction of the individual vibrations created by each vibration generator.

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The foregoing Preliminary Amendment is made to present alternative definitions of the invention and to align the claim dependency with the US practice. No new matter is added. Examination on the merits is respectfully requested.

It is believed that no fees are due in connection with the filing of this Preliminary Amendment. However, if any fees are due, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to deduct said fees from Meyertons, Hood, Kivlin, Kowert & Goetzel Deposit Account No. 50-1505/5991-02400/EBM.

Respectfully submitted,



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